

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended). A method for forwarding a telephone call, comprising the steps of:

routing the incoming telephone call to a dedicated server, said server being associated with an unified messaging system configured to receive voice messages from any one of a group of telephone signaling protocols associated with a PSTN or PBX;

identifying the number being dialed;

said server retrieving ~~associating~~ at least one email address associated with said dialed number;

digitizing the voice message; and

forwarding the digitized voice message as an attachment to an email message to said at least one email address via the Internet.

2. (previously amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of digitizing comprises the step of:

digitizing the voice message into a wave file.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, and further comprising the steps of:

storing said voice message in a voice box; and

the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone.

4. (currently amended) A method for forwarding a telephone call in email message format to a recipient, the method comprising the steps of:

the caller dialing a telephone number associated with a dedicated server, said server being associated with an unified messaging system configured to receive voice messages from any one of a group of telephone signaling protocols associated with a PSTN or PBX;

identifying the telephone number of the caller;

the caller entering the telephone number of the recipient of the telephone call;

said server retrieving ~~associating~~ at least one email address associated with the telephone number of the recipient;

digitizing the voice message; and

forwarding the digitized voice message as an attachment to an email message to said at least one email address via the Internet.

5. (previously amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein said step of digitizing comprises the step of:

digitizing the voice message into a wave file.

6. (original) A method according to claim 4, and further comprising the steps of:

storing said voice message in a voice box; and

the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone.

7. (original) A method according to claim 4, and further comprising the step of:

verifying whether the caller's telephone number matches the registered telephone number of the caller.

8. (original) A method according to claim 4, and if the identified telephone number does not match the registered telephone number of the caller, further comprising the step of:

only forwarding the voice message if a correct password and the registered telephone number associated with the caller is verified.

9. (original) A method according to claim 4, and only if the recipient telephone number is listed as being associated with a registered member, allowing the forwarding of the message.

10. (currently amended) A method for forwarding a facsimile message in email message format to a recipient, the method comprising the steps of:

the caller dialing a facsimile number associated with a dedicated server, said server being associated with an unified messaging system configured to receive voice messages from any one of a group of telephone signaling protocols associated with a PSTN or PBX;

identifying the telephone number of the caller;

the caller entering the facsimile number of the recipient of the facsimile;

said server retrieving associating at least one email address associated with the facsimile number of the recipient;

converting the facsimile message into a format compatible with email; and

forwarding the converted facsimile message as an attachment to an email message to said at least one email address via the Internet.

11. (previously amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein said step of converting comprises the step of:

converting the facsimile message into a TIF file.

12. (original) A method according to claim 10, and further comprising the step of:

verifying whether the caller's telephone number matches the registered telephone number of the caller.

13. (original) A method according to claim 10, and if the identified telephone number does not match the registered telephone number of the caller, further comprising the step of:

only forwarding the facsimile message if a correct password and the registered telephone number associated with the caller is verified.

14. (original) A method according to claim 10, and only forwarding the facsimile message if the recipient facsimile number is a telephone number listed as being associated with a registered member.